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April 5, 2000 LB 637, 972, 1004, 1279 LR 495

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Good afternoon. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber. Members, if you will return to the Chamber, record your presence, we will begin this afternoon's business. Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: I have a quorum present, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Items for the record?

CLERK: Mr. President, amendments by Senator Kristensen to LB 1004; Senator Wickersham to LB 1279, and a new resolution. (Read LR 495 by title for the first time.) That will be laid over. That's all that I have, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 1604-1607.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. General File, 2000 Senator priority bills. LB 972.

CLERK: LB 972, Mr. President, a bill by Senator Brown. (Read title.) The bill was discussed yesterday, Mr. President, briefly. At that time, I believe the committee amendments were offered as was an amendment to the committee amendments by Senator Bourne. (AM2558, Legislative Journal page 982.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Brown, would you like to provide a couple of minutes on the bill, and then, Senator Bourne, we will allow you to provide a brief recap on the committee amendments, then we will begin debate. Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, LB 972 is the follow-up to LB 637 which we put in place last year to create centralized child support receiving and disbursement. This legislation spells out the specifics, especially issues around the customer service piece which was discussed a great deal when we talked about LB 637 last year. At the time that we adopted LB 637, we enabled Health and Human Services to make a recommendation which we would approve as to who the vendor for the State Disbursement Unit would be. Their recommendation was the State Treasurer, who was designated to